

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-3. Rejected claim 4 has been cancelled, which should render moot the only remaining issue raised in the Action.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications to pursue additional patentable subject matter, possibly including subject matter similar to that of cancelled claim 4.

The Office Action included a Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Although Applicants agree that claims 1-3 are patentable over the art, entry of the Statement into the record should not necessarily be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the reasoning set forth in the Statement, particularly to the extent if any that the wording used in the Statement may differ from the actual claim language and/or the otherwise proper interpretation of the claim language. The language of the claims is clear, concise and distinguishes over the art.

Patentability has been discussed in earlier Actions and Responses. However, the language of the allowed claims has not been amended. The reasoning of the Statement is not specifically attributable to Applicants; and further comment on patentability should be unnecessary in view of the record developed to date in this application. It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants' prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Upon entry of the above claim amendments, claims 1-3 remain active in this application, all of which should be patentable over the art. Applicants therefore submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, this case should now be ready to pass to issue; and Applicants respectfully request a prompt favorable reconsideration of this matter.

It is believed that this response addresses all issues raised in the July 19, 2007 Office Action. However, if any further issue should arise that may be addressed in an interview or by an Examiner's amendment, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' representative at the number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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